

Administration hospital reservation, Fort Douglas Station, Salt Lake City, Utah, the exact legal description of which shall be determined by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

Conditions.

SEC. 2. The deed of conveyance authorized under the provisions of this Act shall—

(a) provide that such tract shall not be alienated in the whole or in part by the Armory Board and shall be used only for training, civic, and related purposes;

(b) provide that, if such tract is so used in any manner that, in the judgment of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs or his designate, interferes with the care and treatment of patients in the Veterans' Administration hospital located on land contiguous to such tract, such interference shall cease immediately upon notice thereof to the Armory Board by the Administrator or his designate;

(c) provide that, if either of the conditions prescribed in clauses (a) and (b) of this section are violated, title to such tract shall revert to the United States; and

(d) shall reserve all mineral rights, including gas and oil, to the United States, and contain such additional terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions as may be determined by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to be necessary to protect the interests of the United States.

Approved July 29, 1954.

Public Law 551

CHAPTER 616

AN ACT

July 29, 1954  
[H. R. 8026]

To provide for transfer of title to movable property to irrigation districts or water users' organizations under the Federal reclamation laws.

Irrigation works.  
Movable prop-  
erty title.  
43 USC 371 note.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That whenever an irrigation district or water users' organization assumes operation and maintenance of irrigation works pursuant to a contract entered into with the United States in accordance with the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto), the Secretary of the Interior may transfer to said district or organization title to movable property which has been purchased with funds advanced by the district or organization or which, in the case of property purchased with appropriated funds, is necessary to the operation and maintenance of such works and the value of which is to be repaid under a contract with the district or organization.

Approved July 29, 1954.

Public Law 552

CHAPTER 617

AN ACT

July 29, 1954  
[H. R. 130]

To amend the Act approved June 27, 1947 (61 Stat. 189).

Navajo Indian  
Reservation,  
N. Mex.  
Helium-bearing  
land rights.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 1 of the Act approved June 27, 1947 (61 Stat. 189), entitled "An Act authorizing certain agreements with respect to rights in helium-bearing gas lands in the Navajo Indian Reservation, New Mexico, and for other purposes", be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

"That the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Mines, and the Navajo Tribe of Indians are authorized to enter into an agreement dated December 1, 1945, entitled 'An agreement severing certain formations from oil and gas leases and substituting new leases as to those formations' and an 'Amending agreement', affecting lands in the Navajo Indian Reservation, New Mexico, copies of which are published in House of Representatives Document Numbered 212, Eightieth Congress, first session; and said agreements are ratified and approved. If said Navajo Tribe of Indians shall, after investigation, deem the total consideration payable to it by the United States pursuant to such agreement dated December 1, 1945, as amended, to be in any respect less than reasonable, fair, just, and equitable, said tribe shall be entitled within three years after the date of enactment of this Act to institute suit against the United States in the Court of Claims for the recovery of such additional sum, if any, as may be necessary to compensate said tribe for the reasonable, fair, just, and equitable value of all right, interest, and property passing from said tribe to the United States under such agreement, as amended. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon the Court of Claims to hear and determine any suit so instituted and to enter final judgment against the United States therein for such sum, if any, in excess of the total consideration payable pursuant to such agreement, as amended, as such court may determine to be necessary to provide consideration in all respects reasonable, fair, just, and equitable: *Provided*, That interest shall be allowed on such sum at the rate of 4 per centum per annum from October 20, 1947, to the date of payment and no offsets shall be deducted by the court from any sum determined by the court to be a reasonable, fair, just, and equitable consideration for the right, interest, and property passing to the United States under and pursuant to said agreement of December 1, 1945, as amended, and the interest thereon: *Provided further*, That the foregoing provision relating to interest and offsets shall not extend to any other claim or claims asserted in any such suit, whether or not the same arise out of the subject matter of said agreement, but such other claim or claims, if any, shall be governed by the law relating to actions brought pursuant to title 28, United States Code, section 1505. Appellate review of any judgment so entered shall be in the same manner, and subject to the same limitations, as in the case of claims over which the Court of Claims has jurisdiction under section 1491 of title 28, United States Code. Notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, not more than 10 per centum of the amount received or recovered by said tribe in satisfaction of any claim asserted under this section shall be paid to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with such claim."

Agreement.

Suit for recovery  
of additional sum.

Jurisdiction.

Interest.

63 Stat. 102.

62 Stat. 940.

Court of Claims.  
Jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. Said Act approved June 27, 1947 (61 Stat. 189), is hereby further amended by adding at the end thereof a new section to be designated section 3 and to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred on the Court of Claims to determine, notwithstanding any statute of limitations or laches, in any suit instituted pursuant to section 1 of this Act, (1) whether the assignment dated December 1, 1942, accepted and approved December 17, 1942, of oil and gas lease 149-ind-5337, covering the lands denominated '1942 lands' in section 4 of said agreement dated December 1, 1945, as amended, should in law or in equity, taking into consideration such fiduciary relationship as may exist between the United States and the Navajo Tribe, have been accepted by the United States for the account of the Navajo Tribe instead of for its own account, and, if such assignment should have been so accepted, whether the property interest or any part thereof covered by such assignment

was taken by the United States from the said tribe at any time prior to the effective date of said agreement; (2) whether, and in what amount, if any, the Navajo Tribe is entitled on the basis of such determination to compensation for the acquisition or taking, by the United States, of the property interest or any part thereof covered by such assignment; and (3) whether, and in what amount, if any, the United States is entitled to credit against such compensation for rentals on such lease or for other expenditures, borne by the United States, for the benefit of such lease prior to any such acquisition or taking by the United States; and to enter judgment in accordance with such determinations. No offsets shall be deducted by the court from any net sum, and the interest thereon, if any, that the court awards under this section. The provisions of the last two sentences of section 1 of this Act shall be applicable to any judgment entered pursuant to this section."

Approved July 29, 1954.

## Public Law 553

## CHAPTER 642

### JOINT RESOLUTION

July 29, 1954  
[H. J. Res. 534]

To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell certain war-built passenger-cargo vessels, and for other purposes.

War built ves-  
sels, etc.  
Sale to American  
President Lines,  
Ltd.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That (a) the Secretary of Commerce is hereby authorized, during a period of six months after the enactment of this Act, to sell to American President Lines, Limited, the war-built passenger-cargo vessels, the steamship President Cleveland and the steamship President Wilson, on an as-is where-is basis, at the sales price of \$6,500,000 per vessel and from such price there shall be subtracted, as depreciation, \$1,225 per day per vessel for the period beginning April 1, 1954, and ending with date of execution of the contract of sale of the respective vessel. Each such sale shall be on the basis of the payment of not less than 25 per centum of the respective vessel sales price at the time of the execution of such vessel sales contract, with balance payable in approximately equal annual installments over the remainder of the twenty-year economic life of the vessel with interest on the portion of the vessel sales price remaining unpaid at the rate of 3½ per centum per annum. The obligation of the purchaser with respect to payment of such unpaid balance, with interest, shall be secured by a preferred mortgage on the vessel sold, which mortgage may provide that the sole recourse against the purchaser of the vessel under such mortgage, and any of the notes secured thereby, shall be limited to repossession of the vessel by the United States and the assignment of insurance claims, if the purchaser shall have complied with all provisions of the mortgage other than those relating to the payment of principal and interest when due, and the obligation of the purchaser shall be satisfied and discharged by the surrender of the vessel, and all right, title, and interest therein to the United States. Such vessel upon surrender shall be (1) free and clear of all liens and encumbrances whatsoever, except the lien of the preferred mortgage, (2) in class, and (3) in as good order and condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted, as when acquired by the purchaser, except that any deficiencies with respect to freedom from encumbrances, condition, and class, may, to the extent covered by valid policies of insurance, be satisfied by the assignment to the United States of claims of the purchaser under such policies of insurance.